

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

September 9, 2015

Arts Commission Office, 100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Nancy Stewart, Chair

Minutes

Members present: None

Members via teleconference: Kathy Anderson, Linda Levell, Al Rent, Sherry Stark,
Nancy Stewart, Lewis Ricci, Miah Michaelson

Members absent: None

Arts Commission staff present: Stephanie Pfendler

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Commission Chair Nancy Stewart opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Nancy expressed her excitement to be working with such a dynamic team and wanted to thank everyone for accepting this leadership role. "I know that together we will further our vision of arts everywhere, everyday, for everyone in Indiana."

2. **Consent Agenda.** The commissioners adopted the consent agenda, consisting of the agenda for today's meeting and the minutes from the June 10, 2015 meeting of the Executive Committee by unanimous consensus.

3. **Financials.**

A. Arts Commission Executive Director Lewis Ricci presented a handout (attached) showing the FY 2015 year end budget noting the carry over amount of \$753,192 into FY2016, 2 untouched pools of income (the Donation and the Central Indiana Community Foundation Funds), and the allotment of reserve funds to close out the fiscal year.

B. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) showing the FY 2016 year to date statement noting the 1% of reserve funds freed for Bicentennial projects, further highlighting that the carry forward projection of \$738,869 was exceeded by an actual carry forward amount of \$753,192.

C. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) showing the current balance of the Cultural Trust fund to be \$2,819,990.19. The remaining available interest totals \$17,106.54.

4. **Commission Appointments.** Mr. Ricci reported that with Jennifer Perry newly appointed in Jon Ford's stead and with Karen Ellerbrook and Pam Hicks continuing to

serve on the commission, there is only one, truly vacant position. No new nominations have been received from the Office of the Governor.

5. AOS and Project Modification Policy Change. Mr. Ricci presented the Modification handout (attached) describing the change in protocol through which budgets are reported in case of significant changes to an AOS or APS budget, post-application. Mr. Ricci explained that because of the constant, fluctuating nature of not-for-profit coffers, the current guidelines are impractical, currently only allowing for a 10% deviation from the originally reported budget. The committee reached a unanimous consensus to bring this forward to the full commission for a vote.

6. Strategic Plan Progress. Commissioner Sherry Stark reported that the Steering Committee has been assembled with all nominees accepting. Mr. Ricci thanked Sherry for her involvement and wisdom in this process. The priority is now finalizing surveys for artists and organizations which will be accomplished with consultants Brian Blackford, Sara Peterson and Susan Zurbuchen, as well as through working with Ball State University's Building Better Communities and the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs. Mr. Ricci expressed his excitement about how we will come out of this planning process and "how we are going to be able to better utilize the resources we have to affect positive change in the State for the arts."

7. Capacity Building RFPs Revisited. Mr. Ricci reported that of the 38 proposals received, none were strong enough to fund as submitted. "In a grant process you pitch a good idea and we pay for it. In an RFP process we want something done and we want to contract you to do it." Mr. Ricci further delineated submissions were focused on the internal versus external, meaning that the focus was "on their own organization rather than what we need to accomplish in the State." Continuing forward, we will reach out to those organizations who submitted the strongest proposals to further conversations and broker relationships in the hopes of garnering more comprehensive and fundable results. That being said, there are, strong potential partners that have emerged which have not been considered previously.

8. "New Lay of the Land" Grant Levels Revisited. With 22% of operational grant organizations moving up in budget category, the wheels have been set in motion to revisit and change the factors that determine the levels of AOS. Mr. Ricci would like to accomplish this in the next calendar year, before the biennial cycle begins. Miah Michaelsen commented that it is certainly on the minds of our RAP grantees.

9. Governors arts awards. With the award nominations in, recipients will soon be chosen. The event, tentatively set for April 9th, 2016 at the Schrott Center for the Performing Arts on the Butler University Campus, is in the planning stage. Butler is donating all technical services. Mr. Ricci has been in conversation with the First Lady's Office regarding the event, further discussing the importance of the bicentennial year and recognizing nominees and attendees that have a historic place in our State.

10. **Other Items of Concern for Quarterly Business Meeting.** No other concerns were voiced.

11. **Old Business/New Business.** There was no old or new business.

12. **Adjourn.** Commissioner Nancy Stewart adjourned the meeting by unanimous consensus at 10:49 a.m.